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Amendments to SpecificationPage 2, lines 4-15:

In copending U.S. patent application ~~Serial No. 09/742,481, filed December 20, 2000, abandoned in favor of~~ Serial No. 10/305,301 filed November 26, 2002, U.S. Publication No. US2003-0134165 A1, it is shown that as the fresh hydrogen-containing fuel flows through the anode flow field upon startup, to displace the air therein, the corrosion of the platinum catalyst and catalyst support occurs as the hydrogen/air interface moves through the anode flow field. The extent of corrosion is mitigated by rapidly purging the air with hydrogen during startup of the fuel cell. In a similar fashion, it is known that as purge air is passed through the anode upon shut-down, there is a hydrogen/oxygen interaction, which creates a potential safety hazard and may cause undesirably large voltage excursions in the cells, as described in copending U.S. patent application ~~Serial No. 09/742,497, filed December 20, 2000, abandoned in favor of~~ Serial No. 10/305,300 filed November 26, 2002, U.S. Publication No. US2003-0134164 A1.